GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:61
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2005
TRAIN ACCIDENTS
Manvendra Singh Shri ;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the accident-wise details of train accidents occurred since March, 2005, till date;

(b) the loss of railway property, number of persons injured/died and compensation paid to victims/their family, accident-wise;

(c) the details of inquiry ordered, their findings and the action taken/to be taken against officials found guilty, accident-wise;

(d) whether the Railways have issued any guidelines to fix accountability of senior officials for rail accidents caused by human failure;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the details of discussion held during the recently held Conference of General Managers on rail accidents; and

(g) the measures taken/to be taken to check rail accidents, particularly those occurring due to human error?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD)

(a) to (g): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (g) OF THE STARRED QUESTION No.61 BY KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH AND PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 28.07.2005 REGARDING TRAIN ACCIDENTS.

(a) & (b): There have been 84 consequential train accidents during the period March 2005 to June 2005. Accident- wise details of these accidents, the loss of Railway property along with the number of persons killed/injured, and compensation paid to the victims/their families are given below:-

Type of Accidents	Collisions	Derailments	Manned level crossing accidents	Unmanned level crossing accidents	Fire in trains	Miscellaneous accidents	Total
Number	2	45	1	26	8	2	84
Cost of damage (in Rs)#	11890226	45053609	10000	84800	13219202	500	70258337
Casualty							
Killed	16	2	2	44	--	--	64
Injured	165	18	1	48	--	13	245

Compensation (in Rs)	Compensation is paid after a claim is filed in the Railway Claims Tribunals, and a decree is awarded. No compensation has been paid so far in case of accidents that have occurred since March 2005. However, Rs.23.06 lakhs have been paid as ex-gratia in case of deaths and injuries occurring as a result of accidents since March, 2005.

(All figures are provisional).

(c): Each and every train accident is inquired into either departmentally or by the Commissioners of Railway Safety depending upon the seriousness of the accident and action as warranted is taken against the officials who are found guilty. Out of the above 84 consequential train accidents, 76 have been/are being inquired into departmentally and 8 by the Commissioners of Railway Safety. Inquiries in case of 60 accidents have been completed and action against the officials as warranted initiated.

(d)&(e): Instructions have been issued to the Zonal Railways regarding fixing responsibility at very senior levels including Divisional Railway Managers and General Managers for system failures resulting into accidents.

(f): During the Conference of General Managers held on 14.06.2005 position of accidents on Indian Railways was reviewed and General Managers were directed to pay special attention to prevention of accidents.

(g): Safety is the prime concern of Indian Railways and adoption of new measures to improve safety is a continuous process. The measures being taken by Indian Railways to minimize incidence of accidents include adoption of suitable modern technology for interlocking and signaling system, upgradation of standards of track and rolling stock, modernization of maintenance practices, replacement of over aged assets, upgradation of training aids like simulators, checks on observance of safety precautions and provision of Anti Collision Device.